ANTI-ABDUCTION DEVICE

CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION

The present application is a continuation-in-part application of U.S. patent application Ser. No. 09/185,314, filed Nov. 3, 1998 now U.S. Pat. No. 5,996,380.

FIELD OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates to anti-abduction devices and more particularly to an anti-abduction device of the type that includes two interconnected bracelets that are worn by a child or other person.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

Children in this country and throughout the world are being unlawfully abducted at an increasing rate. This, of course, is a most serious problem because in the end, abducted children, if they survive, are often scarred for life. Unfortunately, the problem of protecting children from abduction has been with us a long time and is a very difficult problem to solve. There have been attempts by others to devise various devices that are aimed at preventing or inhibiting the abduction of children. One type of device is a leash mechanism that is worn by the child and which extends from the child to where it is tied to a parent or other adult. This obviously requires the child be effectively tied to the parent or adult on a continuing basis. This can be unduly restrictive for both the parent and the child. In any event and for whatever reason, these leash type devices have not met with any substantial commercial success.

Experts on child abduction tell us that the first ten seconds of an attempted child abduction is a very critical time period. That is, if some obstacle can be interposed in the abduction attempt during the first ten seconds, then in many cases the criminal attempting the abduction will be frustrated and will flee the scene so as to avoid being caught. With this in mind, the present invention addresses the child abduction problem by attempting to frustrate the abduction attempt within the first ten seconds or within the initial period of the abduction attempt.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The present invention entails an anti-abduction device that is designed to be used by children and other persons that might be the target of an abduction attempt. The device of the present invention comprises two arms bracelets, with each bracelet being adapted to fit and be worn about the arm of a child or other person. Incorporated into the structure of the bracelets is an interconnecting structure. That is the two bracelets are interconnected or can be easily and quickly interlocked. In the way of an example, the anti-abduction device of the present invention comprises two arm bracelets that are interconnected by one or more cables. The bracelets are designed to be secured together and worn on a single arm. However, in the case of an abduction attempt, one bracelet is readily separable from the other and once separated each bracelet encompasses a separate arm while the interconnecting cable effectively ties the two bracelets together.

In the embodiment disclosed herein, the two bracelets are typically worn on one arm. In the event of an abduction attempt the child or other person will look for an object such as a lamp pole, tree, etc. Once a reachable object has been identified, the child will extent his or her arms around the object and will then transfer one of the two bracelets to the other arm and because the bracelets are interconnected via cables, the child becomes effectively tied to the object. Accordingly, the abduction attempt can be frustrated, and if only momentarily, that may be sufficient to spoil the abduction attempt.

It is therefore an object of the present invention to provide an anti-abduction device for use by a child or other person that will frustrate an abduction attempt and will tend to cause the criminal attempting to perpetrate the crime to flee the scene.

Other objects and advantages of the present invention will become apparent and obvious from a study of the following description and the accompanying drawings which are merely illustrative of such invention.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

FIG. **1** is a perspective view showing the anti-abduction device of the present invention.

FIG. **2** illustrates a person having the anti-abduction device of the present invention worn on a single arm with the person extending his or her arms past an object.

FIG. **3** illustrates the person extending one hand into the anti-abduction device.

FIG. **4** illustrates the person extending that hand on through the anti-abduction device.

FIG. **5** illustrates the anti-abduction device extending around both arms of the person.

FIG. **6** is an end view showing the anti-abduction device and its interconnecting structure extending on one side of the object.

FIG. **7** is a view similar to FIG. **6**, but wherein the interconnecting structure is crossed.

FIG. **8** is a perspective view illustrating the anti-abduction device secured to the arms of the person and effectively securing the person to the object.

FIG. **9** is another perspective view of the anti-abduction device interconnected between the arms of a person such that the person is secured to the object.

FIG. **10** is an exploded view of an alternate design for the anti-abduction device of the present invention.

FIG. **11** is another exploded view of the anti-abduction device of FIG. **10** but shown from a different angle.

FIG. **12** is a fragmentary exploded view of portions of the anti-abduction device shown in FIGS. **10** and **11** and particularly illustrating how the flexible line or cable is wound around a portion of the spindle.

FIG. **13** is a cross sectional view of the anti-abduction device shown in FIGS. **10–12**.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

With further reference to the drawings, the anti-abduction device of the present invention is shown therein and indicated generally by the numeral **10**. As will be appreciated from subsequent portions of this disclosure, the anti-abduction device of the present invention is designed and adapted to be worn about the arms of a child or other person. More particularly, in response to an abduction attempt, the person being accosted acts to locate an object and then extends his or her arms around the object after which the anti-abduction device **10** is interconnected between the arms so as to effectively secure the person about the object.

Viewing the anti-abduction device **10** in more detail, it is seen that the same includes a pair of bracelets indicated